

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. Canceled
2. Canceled
3. Canceled
4. Canceled
5. Canceled
6. Canceled
7. Canceled
8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [7] 40, wherein each cycle is of the same length.
9. Canceled
10. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 31, wherein said step of allocating allocates said industry allocation among a selected one or more of said securities of said one industry group.
11. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of selecting at least one security of said securities assigned to said one industry group that has the largest data element of said securities assigned to said one industry group.
12. Canceled
13. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 46, further comprising a step of ranking said securities of said one industry group according to the magnitude of their data elements.
14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 46, wherein there is included a step of limiting the [security allocation] allocated investment to each security of said population so as not to exceed a set amount.
15. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein said set limit is set as a proportion of said universe total.
16. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein there is included a step of limiting said first part so as not to exceed a set amount.

17. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein said set amount is set as a proportion of said universe total.

18. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein said proportion is 2.25%.

19. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein there is included a step of comparing said first part to said set amount and, if less than or equal to said set amount, said first part is set equal to said set amount.

20. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein there is further included a step of ranking at least two of said securities of said corresponding industry group according to the magnitude of their data elements to provide at least first and second ranked securities.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein there is further included a step of comparing said first ranked security with said second ranked security and, if said first ranked security is larger than said second ranked security by a certain amount, said allocating step allocates all of said [one] first part to said first ranked security.

22. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein if said first ranked security is not larger than said second ranked security by said certain amount, said allocating step allocates said first part equally among said first ranked security and said second ranked security.

23. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein there is further included a step of setting at least first and second limits as different whole multiples of said set amount respectively.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein said second limit is greater than said first limit, and there is further included the step of comparing said industry allocation to said first limit and, if greater, setting said first part equal to said set amount and allocating said first part to a first security of said one industry group.

25. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein if said industry allocation is less than said first limit, setting said first part to less than said set amount and allocating said first part to a first security of said one industry group.

26. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 24, wherein if said industry allocation is greater than said first limit, comparing said industry allocation to said second

limit and, if less, setting said second part equal to said set amount and allocating said second part to a second security of said one industry group.

27. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 26, wherein if said industry allocation is greater than said second limit, setting a third part of said industry allocation equal to said set amount and investing said third part to a third security of said corresponding industry group.

28. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein said step of allocating said industry allocation allocates among all of said securities of said one industry group.

29. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 28, wherein said industry allocation is allocated among all of said securities of said one group proportionally to the magnitudes of each of said data elements of said securities of said one industry group.

30. (Currently Amended) A method of allocating an investment among a population of securities, each security having at least one corresponding data element, said method [comprising] implemented by a data processing system programmed to perform the steps of:

- a) assigning each security of said population to a corresponding one industry group of a plurality of industry groups;
- b) summing said data element of each security of said population to provide an industry total of the data elements of each of said corresponding industry groups of said plurality and a universe total of the data elements of each security of said population; and
- c) allocating an industry allocation to at least one industry group of said plurality.

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30, wherein there is included the step of determining the amount of the industry allocation for [a selected] one industry group of said plurality as the product of said investment and the industry total for said one industry group divided by the universe total.

32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30, wherein there is included the step of determining the amount of the industry allocation for [a selected] one industry group of said plurality as dependent on the amount of said investment.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30, wherein there is included the step of determining the amount of the industry allocation for [a selected] one industry group of said plurality as dependent on the amount of said industry total.

34. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30, wherein there is included the step of determining the amount of the industry allocation for [a selected] one industry group of said plurality as dependent on the amount of said universe total.

35. (Currently Amended) A method of allocating an investment among a population of securities, each security of said population having at least one corresponding data element, said method [comprising] implemented by a data processing system programmed to carry out the steps of:

- a) assigning each security of said population to a corresponding one industry group of a plurality of industry groups;
- b) summing said data element of each security of said one industry group to provide an industry total of the data elements of said one industry group;
- c) allocating an industry allocation to a selected number of securities of said one industry group; [and]
- d) determining the magnitude of said industry total of said one industry and setting said number of securities in accordance with said magnitude of said industry total of said one industry group[.] ; and
- e) comparing said industry total of said one industry group with a first limit and, if less, allocating said industry allocation of said one industry group to at least one security of said one industry group, and if said industry total of said one industry group is greater than said first limit, allocating said industry allocation to at least two securities of said one industry group.

36. Canceled

37. (Previously Added) The method of claim 35, wherein there is further included the step of reiteratively comparing said industry allocation of said one industry group with at

least first and second limits, said second limit being greater than said first limit; if said industry allocation of said one industry group is greater than said first limit, allocating said industry allocation of said one industry group among a first number of securities of said one industry group; and if said industry allocation of said one industry group is greater than said second limit, allocating said industry allocation of said one industry group among a second number of securities of said one industry group, said second number being greater than said first number.

38. (Currently Amended) A method of allocating an investment among a population of securities, said method [comprising] implemented by a data processing system programmed to carry out the steps of:

- a) assigning each security of said population to a corresponding one industry group of a plurality of industry groups;
- b) summing the value of each security of said one industry group to provide an industry total of said one industry group;
- c) comparing said industry total of said one industry group with a first limit of a selected magnitude and, if less, allocating an industry allocation of said one industry group to at least one security of said one industry group;
- d) if said industry total of said one industry group is greater than said first limit, allocating said industry allocation of said one industry group to at least two securities of said one industry group; and
- e) setting said first limit to a given magnitude, whereby said industry allocation to any one security of said one industry group may not exceed said given magnitude.

39. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 38, wherein there is further included the step of comparing said industry total of said one industry group with a second limit and, if greater, allocating said industry allocation of said one industry group to at least three securities, said [magnitude of said] second limit being set to a magnitude equal to twice said given magnitude, whereby said industry allocation to any security of said one industry group may not exceed said given magnitude.

40. (Currently Amended) A method of allocating an investment among a population of securities, each security having at least one corresponding updatable data element, said method [comprising] implemented by a data processing system programmed to carry out the steps of:

- a) assigning each security of said population to a corresponding industry group of a plurality of industry groups;
- b) summing said data element of each security of said population to provide an industry total of the data element for each of said corresponding industry groups and an universe total of the data elements of each security of said population;
- c) allocating an industry allocation to each to each industry group of said plurality;
- d) repeat step a) of assigning on a periodic cycle the industry of the securities of each said plurality of industry groups at selected times to accurately account for those securities which has changed their industry, said plurality of securities are subdivided into a plurality of editions, each edition of said plurality is reassigned on a cycle that is staggered from the cycles of the other editions of said plurality;
- e) accessing a [real time] source of the current value of said data element of each security of said population and updating at selected times the values of said data elements of said securities of said population; and
- f) updating on a periodic cycle the data elements of at least some of said securities of said population.

41. Canceled

42. (Currently Amended) A method of allocating an investment among a population of securities, each security of said population having at least one corresponding data element, said method [comprising] implemented by a data processing system programmed to carry out the steps of:

- a) assigning each security of said population to a corresponding one industry group of a plurality of industry groups;
- b) summing said data element of each security of said one industry group to provide an industry total of the data elements of said one industry group;

c) allocating an industry allocation to a plurality of securities of said one industry group; and

d) determining whether said data element of one of said plurality of securities of said one industry group is greater than said data element of another of said plurality of securities of said one industry group by a predetermined amount and, if not, allocating said industry allocation [equally] to said one security and said other security [securities] of said one industry group.

43. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 42, wherein if said data element of said one security is greater than said data element of said other security of said one industry group by more than said predetermined amount, allocating said allocation only to said one security and said other security [securities with the greater data element].

44. (Currently Amended) A method of allocating an investment among a population of securities, each security of said population having at least one corresponding data element, said method [comprising] implemented by a data processing system programmed to carry out the steps of:

a) summing said data element of each security of said population to provide an universe total of the data elements of each security of said population; and

b) selecting said data element from a plurality of different kinds of data elements to provide a particular style of investing corresponding to said selected data element.

45. (Previously Added) The method of claim 44, wherein said selected data element is common share holder equity.

46. (Previously Added) The method of claim 44, wherein said plurality of data elements include common shareholder's equity, market capitalization, net income, net revenue, net earnings and total assets.

47. (Currently Amended) A method of allocating an investment among a population of securities, each security having at least one corresponding data element, said method [comprising] implemented by a data processing system programmed to carry out the steps of:

- a) assigning each security of said population to a corresponding one industry group of a plurality of industry groups;
- b) summing said data element of each security of said one industry group [population] to provide an industry total of the data elements of each of said corresponding industry groups of said plurality [and a universe total of the data elements of each security of said population];
- c) allocating said industry total to said one industry group and comparing said industry total with a predetermined amount and, if less, dividing [selectively an industry allocation] said allocated industry total into at least first and second parts, said first and second parts being the greatest data elements of said one industry group; and
- d) allocating said first and second parts selectively among two of said corresponding securities of said one industry group having the largest data elements; and]
- [e)] d comparing said first part to [a set amount and, if less than or equal to said set amount,] said second part and, if said first part is substantially equal to said second part, said first part is set equal to said [set] predetermined amount.

48. (Currently Amended) A method of allocating an investment among a population of securities, each security of said population having at least one corresponding data element, said method comprising the steps of:

- a) assigning each security of said population to a corresponding one industry group of a plurality of industry groups;
- b) summing said data element of each security of said one industry group to provide an industry total of the data elements of said one industry group;
- c) setting a magnitude of a limit which the value of the data element of each security of an industry group may not exceed; and
- d) comparing the industry total of the data elements of said one industry group with said limit and, if less, allocating said industry allocation to a particular industry group of said plurality of industry groups.

49. (Currently Added) The method of claim 48, wherein step c) sets the magnitude of said limit as the product of said value of the data element of each security of an industry group and N, wherein N is any whole number.